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Applicability of the formulae of Bardin and Dokuchaeva for the radiative corrections analysis in the NuTeV experiment

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ABSTRACT

We point out one of the possible sources of the "NuTeV anomaly": the effect of the non-adequate application of the one-loop electroweak radiative corrections including QED hard photon emission derived by Bardin and Dokuchaeva (1986) in the NuTeV radiative corrections data analysis of deep inelastic neutrino and anti-neutrino deep inelastic scattering.

The NuTeV collaboration¹ has made a precise determination of the weak mixing angle by measuring charged and neutral current cross sections from neutrino and anti-neutrino deep inelastic scattering (DIS) on iron. Their value differs by 3 standard deviations from that obtained from measurements at the Z pole.

A precise determination of the on-shell weak mixing angle has been performed by the NuTeV collaboration for the first time through the measurements of the Pashos-Wolfenstein ratio²:

$$R^- = \frac{\sigma(\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \nu_\mu X) - \sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu N \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu X)}{\sigma(\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu^- X) - \sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu N \rightarrow \mu^+ X)}. \quad (1)$$

The NuTeV collaboration finds $\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.2277 \pm 0.0016$ which is 3.0σ higher than that obtained from the Standard Model predictions.

From this experimental value one obtains the mass of M_W boson¹

$$M_W = 80.14 \pm 0.08 \text{ GeV} \quad (2)$$

which is smaller than other measurements of M_W at LEP/SLD and the Tevatron (Fig. 1).

The radiative corrections (RC) are important for the higher statistics experiments and dependent of the methods used to extract the wanted cross section from the data.^{5,6}

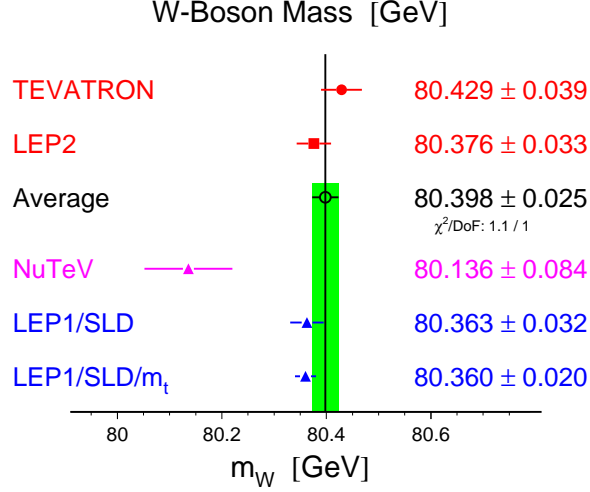


Fig. 1. The results of the direct measurements of M_W at LEP2/Tevatron are compared with the indirect determinations at LEP1/SLD and in the NuTeV experiment.^{3,4,1}

Here we point out one of the possible sources of the "NuTeV anomaly": the effect of the non-adequate application of the Fortran program NUDIS⁸ for the calculations of the electroweak RC to the inclusive cross section of deep inelastic $\nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)N$ -scattering in the data analysis of neutrino and anti-neutrino DIS in the NuTeV experiment.¹ This effect we consider as the most promising effect⁹ that might reconcile the NuTeV measurement with the precise measurements near the Z pole.

The RC produce a shift of the extracted on-shell weak mixing angle $\sin^2 \theta_W$ ^{7,8,10}

$$\Delta \sin^2 \theta_W = \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \sin^2 \theta_W + \frac{20}{27} \sin^4 \theta_W}{1 - \frac{40}{27} \sin^2 \theta_W} (\delta R_{NC}^\nu + \delta R_{CC}^\nu), \quad (3)$$

where $\delta R_{NC}^\nu + \delta R_{CC}^\nu$ is the total electroweak RC⁸ to $R^{\nu 13}$

$$R^\nu = \frac{\sigma_{NC}^\nu(\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \nu_\mu X)}{\sigma_{CC}^\nu(\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu^- X)}, \quad (4)$$

and

$$\delta R_{NC}^\nu = \frac{\sigma_{\nu NC}^{\text{Corr.}} - \sigma_{\nu NC}^{\text{Born}}}{\sigma_{\nu NC}^{\text{Born}}}, \quad \delta R_{CC}^\nu = -\frac{\sigma_{\nu CC}^{\text{Corr.}} - \sigma_{\nu CC}^{\text{Born}}}{\sigma_{\nu CC}^{\text{Born}}} \quad (5)$$

are the corrections to the NC and CC cross sections.

The main contribution to the total RC arises from δR_{CC}^ν ,^{8,10-12} i.e. from the charged current events in the neutrino DIS:

$$\nu_\mu(k_1) + N(p_1) \rightarrow \mu^-(k_2) + X(p_2). \quad (6)$$

The electroweak RC to DIS have two different parts - weak RC and QED RC. The contribution of the weak RC does not depend from the event selection in the experiment, but the contribution of the QED RC depends significantly on the measured kinematical quantities. The contribution of the QED RC is a complicated function of kinematical variables used in the cross section measurement: the radiative corrections calculated in a different set of variables can have a completely different value and behavior^{17,18} because of the different bremsstrahlung contribution to (6) from the process:

$$\nu_\mu(k_1) + N(p_1) \rightarrow \mu(k_2) + X(p_2) + \gamma(k). \quad (7)$$

with non-observed photon(s).

If the initial energy of neutrino E_ν in the lab. frame is known the fixed target experiments on the neutrino DIS could use only two additional experimentally measured quantities to determine the kinematics of the events.

By measuring the energy E_μ and the angle θ_μ of the scattered charged lepton the analysis of deep inelastic events will then be based on the evaluation of, the so-called invariant leptonic variables:

$$Q_l^2 = -(k_1 - k_2)^2, \quad y_l = \frac{p_1(k_1 - k_2)}{p_1 k_1}, \quad x_l = \frac{Q_l^2}{S y_l} \quad (8)$$

with

$$S = (k_1 + p_1)^2 \simeq 2ME_\nu, \quad (9)$$

where M is the mass of nucleon.

In the same manner, by measuring the energy E_h and the angle θ_h of the hadron jet the analysis of deep inelastic events could be based on the evaluation of, the so-called invariant hadronic variables¹⁷:

$$Q_h^2 = -(p_2 - p_1)^2, \quad y_h = \frac{p_1(p_2 - p_1)}{p_1 k_1}, \quad x_h = \frac{Q_h^2}{S y_h}. \quad (10)$$

In the composition of both measurements there are many possible sets of variables. One set is, the so-called invariant mixed variables:

$$Q_m^2 = Q_l^2, \quad y_h = \frac{p_1 Q_h}{p_1 k_1}, \quad x_m = \frac{Q_l^2}{S y_h}. \quad (11)$$

The general formula¹⁷ for the radiatively corrected neutrino DIS cross section in terms of leptonic variables can be represented as the sum of the Born distribution with the contributions due to virtual loop diagrams and real hard photon emission:

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma^{RC}}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{d^2 \sigma^{Born}}{dx dQ^2} (1 + \delta^V(x, Q^2)) + \int \int dx_h dQ_h^2 H(x, Q^2, x_h, Q_h^2) \frac{d^2 \sigma^{Born}}{dx_h dQ_h^2} \quad (12)$$

The part of (12), proportional to $\delta^V(x, Q^2)$, contains the contributions from the EW and QED loop corrections and from the soft part of the real photon radiation. The second part accounts for the bremsstrahlung contribution (7) where the function $H(x, Q^2, x_h, Q_h^2)$ is the hard photon radiator.

The explicit formulae for $\delta^V(x, Q^2)$ and $H(x, Q^2, x_h, Q_h^2)$ are derived in the unpublished communication⁸ in the framework of the quark-parton model and in the approximation of the four-momentum contact interaction neglecting the terms of the order $\alpha Q^2/M_W^2$. Moreover, in⁸ for the density function of the initial quark in the nucleon $f_i(x, Q)$ the scaling approximation is used which simplifies the calculation of the twofold integral in (12).

It is worth to note, that the twofold integral in (12) depends on the structure functions of the nucleon, not only at a given $F(x, Q^2)$ point, but in the physical region of (x_h, Q_h^2) defined by the kinematics of the process (7) in leptonic variables¹⁷ (Fig. 2.)^{*}.

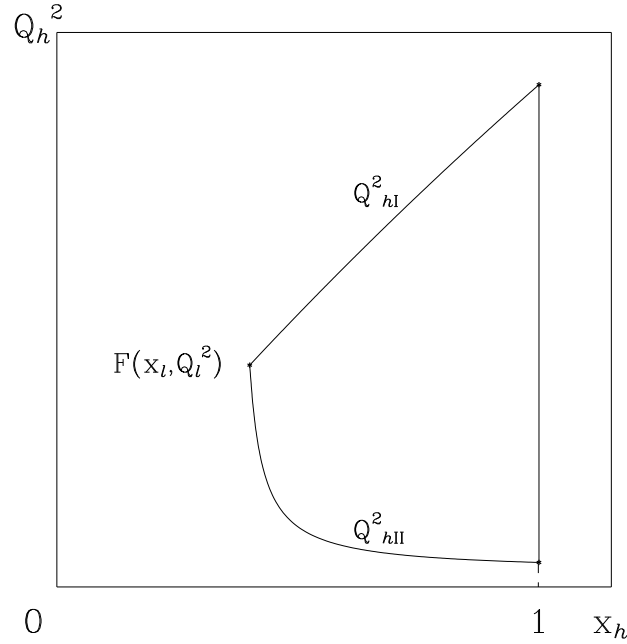


Fig. 2. Integration region of (x_h, Q_h^2) for the DIS cross section in leptonic variables.

The integration region of (x_h, Q_h^2) accounts for the contribution of the radiative process (see Fig. 3) to the inclusive cross section of the CC and NC DIS and is described by the Bjorken variables:

$$x \leq x_h \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq y_h \leq 1, \quad M^2 \leq M_h^2 \leq W^2, \quad (13)$$

^{*}The kinematical boundaries $Q_{hI,II}^2$ are defined by formula (B.17) of .¹⁷

where the invariant masses M_h^2 and W^2 of the hadronic final state are defined as

$$M_h^2 = M^2 + Q_l^2 \left(\frac{1 - x_h}{x_h} \right), \quad W^2 = M^2 + Q_l^2 \left(\frac{1 - x_l}{x_l} \right). \quad (14)$$

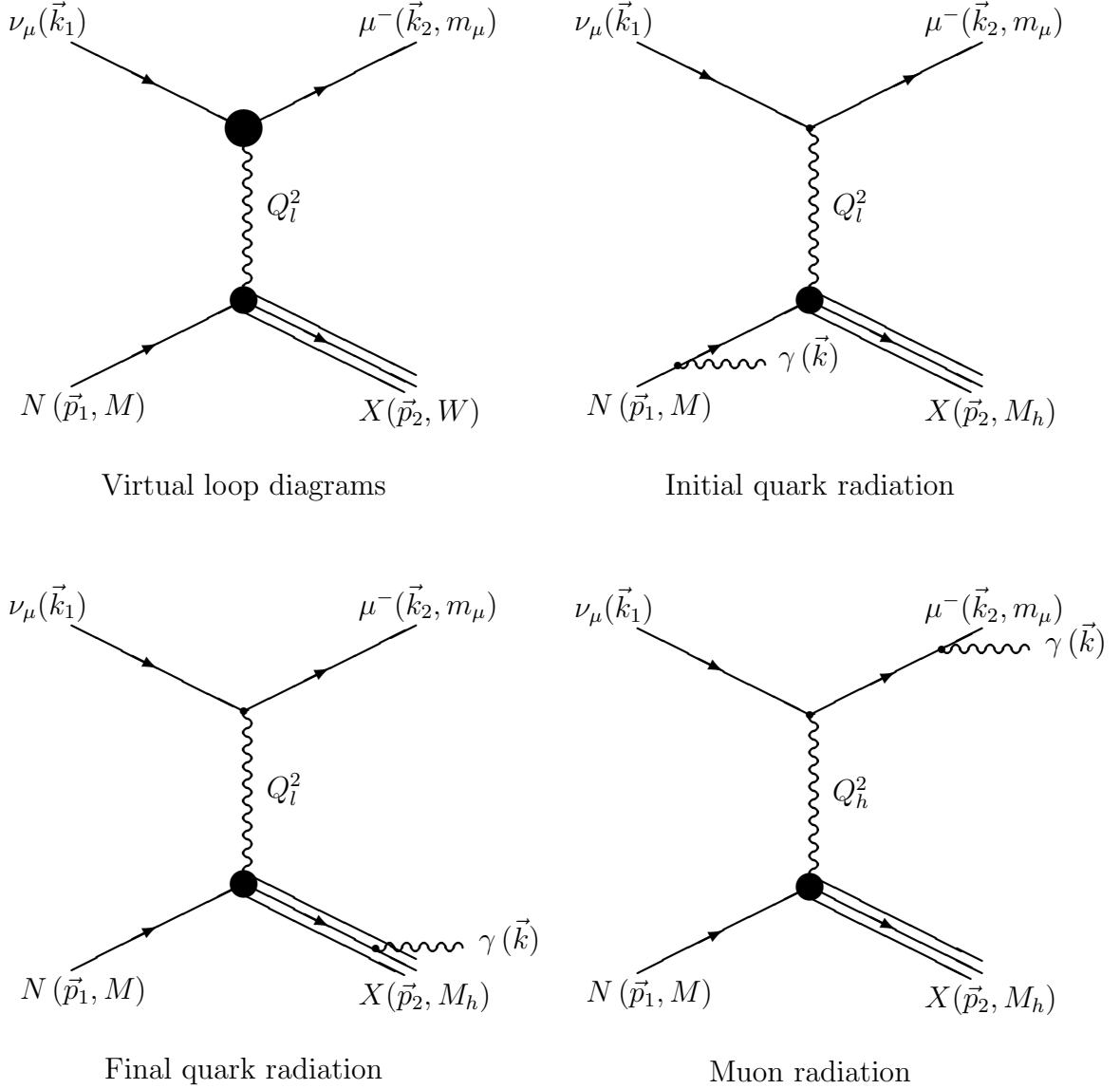


Fig. 3. Virtual loop and bremsstrahlung diagrams contributing to deep inelastic $\nu_\mu N$ -scattering .

From the studies of the RC for DIS ¹⁷ it is known that the large radiative corrections are due to the emission of hard photons (the twofold integral in (12)).

For the hard bremsstrahlung (7) the minimum of Q_h^2 is

$$(Q_h^2)_{min} \simeq x_l^2 M_h^2. \quad (15)$$

This formula shows that the calculation of the contribution from hard photon emission demands the knowledge of the nucleon structure functions in the region $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$.

The NuTeV experiment uses¹⁴ the computer program ZFITTER¹⁵ for the calculation of the electroweak corrections and the formulae of Bardin and Dokuchaeva⁸ implemented in the Fortran program NUDIS⁸ which contains the virtual loop corrections and the bremsstrahlung contribution (Fig. 3) in leptonic variables without applying a cut on photon kinematics[†].

The semi-analytical program NUDIS calculates the RC factor of the order $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ to the inclusive differential cross section $d^2\sigma/dxdQ^2$ of neutrino and anti-neutrino CC and NC DIS at fixed energy of the neutrino beam.

In reality, the initial energy of neutrino E_ν is measured for *each selected event*. In the NuTeV¹⁶ the three experimentally measured quantities are: E_μ and θ_μ , the energy and the scattering angle of the outgoing muon, and E_{HAD} , the energy deposited in the target calorimeter which includes the energy of the hadronic final state E_h and the energy of the emitted photon E_γ :

$$E_{HAD} = E_h + E_\gamma, \quad (16)$$

Then for this event the initial neutrino energy E_ν is calculated by:

$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_{HAD} \quad (17)$$

The measurement of E_{HAD} for the event selection¹⁶ means the detection of real hard photons with the energy $E_\gamma > \bar{E}_\gamma$, where \bar{E}_γ is the photonic calorimeter threshold.

Therefore, the contribution of such hard photons to the inclusive cross section of DIS should be subtracted from the bremsstrahlung integral in (12). This implies the integration in (12) over the physical region (x_h, Q_h^2) restricted by the following condition:

$$Q_h^2/x_h \geq Q_l^2/x_l - 2M\bar{E}_\gamma \quad (18)$$

This is the main point of the non-adequate application of the formulae of Bardin and Dokuchaeva and the Fortran program NUDIS in the radiative corrections analysis of the NuTeV experiment.

We anticipate substantial change of the value of the radiative correction factor $\delta(x, Q^2)$:

$$\delta(x, Q^2) = \frac{d^2\sigma^{\text{RC}}/dxdQ^2}{d^2\sigma^{\text{Born}}/dxdQ^2} - 1 \quad (19)$$

for the inclusive cross section of the CC and NC DIS and for the values of δR_{CC}^ν and δR_{NC}^ν by adequate calculation of the contribution of hard photon emission.

[†]With the exception of a cut on the energy of final hadrons $E_h > 10 \text{ GeV}$.

The recent re-calculation of the electroweak RC to neutrino DIS¹¹ including higher order contributions and different scheme of the subtraction of the mass singularities is performed for the hadronic variables and is used in the experiment NOMAD.¹⁹ The size of the QED RC to the CC scattering in hadronic variables are much smaller than the corrections in leptonic variables.¹¹

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